

Title: Need for a special financial package for the development of Bodoland Territorial Areas Districts in Assam.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (KOKRAJHAR) : On 10th February, 2003, a new accord was signed between the Union Government of India, the State Government of Assam and Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) resulting in the creation of a new political arrangement with the name and style "Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD) and Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) in Assam" under the provision of the 6th Schedule to the Constitution of India. In the aforementioned second Bodo Accord, it was also committed by the Government of India to provide Rs. 100 crore per annum for a period of five years as special developmental package for the most backward, Bodoland Territory in the State of Assam. The Interim Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) came into being since the 6th December, 2003 and by now, already one year has elapsed. The Interim Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) has already submitted as many as 33 project proposals along with the D.P.Rs to the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (DONER) long time back. But even today, the proposals are pending.

I would like to earnestly urge upon the Union Government to take appropriate steps to help sanction all the project proposals sent by the BTC Authority and also to help release the committed Central Fund at the earliest possible. Further, I also would like to demand from the Union Government to take necessary steps to sanction minimum of Rs. 1000 crore per annum as special Central assistance for the Bodoland Territory in the interest of bridging the gap in the development sphere within the Constitutionally recognized tribal area, i.e. Bodoland Territorial Areas Districts (BTAD) and also to help instill confidence in the minds of the people of Bodoland Territory.